

E-BLAST FOR THE CITY OF NORTH OAKS—11/19/2021

IMPORTANT UPDATES

City Hall - Thanksgiving Schedule

City Hall will be closed next week on Thursday 11/25 and Friday 11/26 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Have a safe celebration!

Recycling Day Shift

Next Thursday and Friday only, recycling pickups will be shifted back one day due to the Thanksgiving holiday. If your normal pick up is on Thursday or Friday, please set your cart out at the end of your driveway 1 day later.

*Contact your respective trash provider for their own schedule.

Accepting Applications for Planning and Natural Resource Commissions

City Hall is accepting applications from interested residents until November 30th at 4:00 p.m. See the “In case you missed it section” below for complete details on each Commission and links to apply.

Natural Resources Commission Meeting Highlights

Highlights from Thursday's Natural Resources Commission meeting include:

- The October 21st, Natural Resource Commission meeting minutes have been approved and [posted to the City website](#).
- Discussion on deer management: An aerial survey to count deer will take place in early January once there is sufficient snowfall. Based on this data, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will guide decision on whether the City is at safe and healthy ratio for the number of deer in our community, or whether a deer management program should take place this year.
- Discussion on lake quality in North Oaks: Data from water quality testing from VLAWMO and St. Paul Regional Water Authority were compiled into a spreadsheet. Additional work will be done to add trophic index and other measures of water quality, then combine datasets into a graph to add clarity for future discussion.
- Discussion on Wetland Ordinance: A subcommittee was formed to review the current City Shoreland/wetland requirements and determine if a more user-friendly method of presenting this information is needed. The subcommittee will compile information from current ordinances related to wetlands, create an outline of tasks to possibly develop a revised ordinance, and present back to NRC and City Council.
- Tick Task force survey is open with 27 responses to date. Residents are encouraged to report any ticks encountered or Lyme disease diagnosis. Another communication push of the survey will occur in the Spring.
- An article from VLAWMO will be published in the December North Oaks News reminding residents of why putting leaves in wetlands is harmful to the environment and considered illicit dumping.
- There has been an uptick in Emerald Ash Borer reports. The City Forester will continue inspections throughout the winter. It is now safe to prune Oak trees.
- There was brief discussion on water level in Pleasant Lake and the carp harvest that will take place at first ice.
- The next meeting will take place Thursday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Unraveling the Mystery of Home Improvement Projects

Confused by the City and NOHOA requirements for when and how to submit for approvals and Building permits? You're not alone! The City permit process is guided by State Statutes, building code, and City ordinances and zoning regulations. NOHOA regulations are based on NOHOA Warranty Deeds and Declarations, Bylaws and ASC rules and procedures. Check out this [summary for residents to help clarify the process](#).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

North Oaks Women's Guild I – Holiday Luncheon/Fashion Show / Boutique

This weekend is the annual fundraiser sponsored by the North Oaks Women's Guild I to raise money for the Children's Hospital Association of Minnesota. There is a fashion show and luncheon, silent auction and holiday boutique taking place at the North Oaks Golf Club on Friday and Saturday. The boutique is open to the public with no ticket needed, Friday and Saturday between 9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m. Click [HERE](#) for details of all events or [make a direct donation](#) to this great cause.

NATURAL RESOURCES

DNR seeking applicants to serve on Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources invites Minnesotans interested in serving on the department's Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee to apply by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15. Click [HERE](#) for complete information on responsibilities, timing and how to apply.

REMINDERS – IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Openings: Planning Commission

The City of North Oaks Planning Commission has 3 openings beginning January 1, 2022.

The Planning Commission is an advisory body to the City Council and is responsible for reviewing the City's Comprehensive Plan, conditional use permits (CUP), and variances and development related submissions. After review of items brought forth, the commission makes recommendations to the City Council. The North Oaks Planning Commission meets the fourth Thursday of each month.

Residents interested in serving on the Planning Commission should review the [appointment policy](#) and submit the [Board Application form](#) to City Administrator Kevin Kress at North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, North Oaks, MN 55127, or email it to kkress@northoaksmn.gov. These postings can also be found on the [City website](#).

The deadline for applications is November 30th at 4 p.m.

Openings: Natural Resource Commission

North Oaks is a unique community, surrounded by woods, water, and wildlife. The North Oaks Natural Resources Commission is a group of like-minded community members that believe in protecting the environment for current and future North Oaks residents. Commissioners serve as advisors to the City Council, and work closely with North Oaks Homeowners' Association, and other partners on issues such as wetland conservation, invasive species, pesticide use, pollinator protection, and tree health. The Commission is actively seeking additional volunteers. No specific expertise in environmental issues is required - simply a love of North Oaks, the environment, and the desire to help other residents learn about natural resources. The Commission holds monthly meetings (on the third Thursday) and participates in community events.

If you are interested in joining the Commission, please complete and submit the "[Boards, Committees, and Commissions Application](#)" to City Administrator Kevin Kress at North Oaks City Hall, 100 Village Center Drive, North Oaks, MN 55127 or email to kkress@northoaksmn.gov. The application can also be found on the City's website at www.northoaksmn.gov. Click on the "City Hall" tab, followed by the blue tab labeled "Commissions and Committees."

The deadline for applications is November 30th at 4 p.m.

Snow Removal

As you begin to think about snowfall removal for the winter, just a reminder that all private snowplow contractors must keep snow on your own property. It is against City ordinance to push snow into the street or onto adjacent neighbor's properties. Snow plowing of all North Oaks roads is completed by Mel's services under the direction of the North Oaks Homeowner association.

Theft Prevention Tips - Prevent theft from your vehicle:

- Don't leave valuables in your vehicle.
- Always lock your car, and park in a well-lit and well-traveled area.
- When running errands, shopping, or traveling, make an extra stop before arriving at your destination to lock valuables in your trunk.
- If you must leave personal property in your vehicle, make sure it is out of view.
- Be aware in parking lots. Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle, ready to unlock the door.

Tis the season to be Merry....and for package theft

As we enter the holiday season, just a reminder to be proactive in protecting your valuables this time of year. Be sure to lock your vehicles while both in your driveway and out shopping, keep valuables out of site, and bring inside as soon as possible any packages and mail that may be delivered to your home. While there are many types of vehicles making deliveries, keep an eye out for anything suspicious and call 911 to report any unusual activity.

Historical City Eblast Communications

Just a reminder that all former City of North Oaks Eblasts can be accessed at any time on the City Website under City Hall [Weekly Town News](#).

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

Access to participate in public meetings via remote zoom is still available at this time. Final materials and links for meetings can be found on the City of North Oaks website no later than 72 hours prior to each meeting at <http://www.northoaksmn.gov>. **Click on the calendar entry for each meeting to access agendas, links to view via CTV, or to participate via zoom.**

The community may also watch via the City website or Cable Channel 16 for City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Minutes will be taken and published for Natural Resource Commission meetings. Contact the City if you would like to view a recording of a past NRC Meeting.

- **City Council Meeting** – Thursday, 12/9/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Natural Resources Commission Meeting** – Thursday, 12/16/21 at 7 p.m.
- **Planning Commission Meeting** – date tbd 7 p.m. (due to Thanksgiving holiday)

A complete list of options for participation and submitting comments can be found [here](#).

City of North Oaks—Office Hours

Monday–Thursday: 9:00 – 4:00 p.m., Friday: 9:00 - 12 p.m.

City Email: northoaks@northoaksmn.gov, Phone: 651-792-7750

For your convenience, permit and license applications and other business can still be submitted to northoaks@northoaksmn.gov and processed remotely without the need to make a trip into the office. Contact the City with any questions.

*** Connect with us! “Follow” the [City of North Oaks Facebook page](#) for the most current City updates.*

Kevin Kress
City of North Oaks
City Administrator



100 Village Center

North Oaks, MN 55127

651-792-7750